

Today's News - Thursday, February 17, 2011

- Chakrabarti's A Country of Cities series continues with a fascinating examination of how the protests Egypt and elsewhere "remind us that urban spaces can drive us towards a changed, perhaps unstable, but in the end better world."
- Lange and Gutman make the case for why planning for children would make cities better places for everyone else, too.
- Nussbaum reports from the Dream:In conference in India: "I've been to hundreds of design conferences, but nothing like this. This is different" (we'd like to be there!).
- Proposed U.S. budget cuts deliver "a painful blow to preservationists" (with a few bright spots remaining).
- LaBarre on the high hopes held for SHoP's Botswana Innovation Hub: "Will it work? ...or just end up a white elephant...Just because a building looks nice and feels nice and is nice to the environment doesn't mean companies will pick up and move there."
- U.K.'s Crab Studio teams with Australian Gold Medalist Brit Andresen and scores design of Queensland's Bond University's Soheil Abedian School of Architecture (great pix).
- Lui takes an in-depth look at the University of Chicago's efforts to not be the 800-pound gorilla in the neighborhood (not all are convinced).
- Cheers for TEN Arquitectos' Chopo Museum in Mexico City (even though it "bears the scars" of some painful value-engineering).
- Snøhetta tapped to design Aberdeen Maggie's Centre (still to be confirmed).
- MoMA/P.S.1 2011 Young Architects Program and inaugural YAP_MAXXI winners hail from Brooklyn and Rome.
- California State University, Long Beach chooses team to come up with "a comprehensive approach to make the campus look even more cohesive."
- An eyeful of the Total Housing Competition winning design, the Stairscraper (that might become a reality in Abu Dhabi - where else?).
- Architecture 2030 Challenge for Products makes its debut.
- RIBA accredits the City School of Architecture Sri Lanka.
- Universities score archives: Kallmann, McKinnell & Wood's to MIT Museum, and Douglas Cardinal's (post '84) to Carleton University.
- The ever-expanding Palm Springs Modernism Week kicks off today.
- Call for entries/nominations: 2012 World Monuments Watch.

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Liberation Squares: Vishaan Chakrabarti examines the protests unfolding across the Middle East in terms of how urban space can enhance or prohibit social change...Change is the essence of urbanity, and Egypt has reminded us that urban space can drive us towards a changed, perhaps unstable, but in the end better world. [images, links]- Urban Omnibus

The Moms Aren't Wrong: Why Planning for Children Would Make Cities Better for All: What if catering to our youngest citizens, rather than dismissing them, would help us all live happier, healthier urban lives. By Alexandra Lange- GOOD Magazine

Marta Gutman Envisions Child-Friendly Urban Neighborhoods: Spitzer School of Architecture Professor Sees Incremental Steps and Adaptive Reuse as Key to Making Cities Better for Children [links]- City College of New York (CCNY)

Looking to Realize Dreams in India, With New Business Models: Can we find a new model for sustainable economic growth that doesn't just provide for needs, but makes dreams come true? Dream:In conference will test whether or not they can extend that to a successful "dream-to-market" business strategy. By Bruce Nussbaum [videos, links]- Fast Company

President's Budget Proposes Cuts to Historic Preservation: ...delivering a painful blow to preservationists...Save America's Treasures and Preserve America, were eliminated, slashing the Historic Preservation Fund by 23%...National Park Service's construction budget...that funds maintenance on historic structures, took a 35% hit. [links]- Preservation Magazine/National Trust for Historic Preservation

Could Botswana Become a High Tech Hub? SHoP Architects Builds a \$50m Gamble: ...A-list New York architects to build Botswana Innovation Hub for a new knowledge economy. Will it work? ...or just end up a white elephant...Just because a building looks nice and feels nice and is nice to the environment doesn't mean companies will pick up and move there. By Suzanne LaBarre [images, links]- Fast Company

Peter Cook and Gavin Robotham's Crab Studio + Brit Andresen win competition to design Bond University's Soheil Abedian School of Architecture: ...will focus on ecologically and socially sustainable design...new addition to Arata Isozaki's 1987 campus design will be attached to the University's School of Sustainable Development. [images]- Australian Design Review

South Side Story: Nimble development by the University of Chicago and private interests is changing the face of Hyde Park and Woodlawn..."there's a real division between whether gentrifying the neighborhood is a great thing or is ruining it." By Ann Lok Lui -- Todd Williams Billie Tsien; Goody Clancy; James Carpenter Design Associates; Hartshorne Plunkard Architects; Studio Gang; Ross Barney Architects [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Chopo Museum: Enrique Norten/TEN Arquitectos creates a contemporary art space inside a turn-of-the-20th-century expo pavilion...the project bears the scars of a difficult construction process. -- Bruno Möhring (1913) [slide show]- Architectural Record

Snøhetta set to design Aberdeen Maggie's centre: ...would be the Oslo-based practice's first building in the UK, after its Turner Contemporary in Margate was scrapped...spokeswoman said the practice could not confirm anything till next week.- BD/Building Design (UK)

MoMA/P.S. 1 2011 Young Architects Program Winner Announced: ...companion program called YAP_MAXXI in an outdoor space at the entrance of the new Zaha Hadid-designed museum, was also launched. -- Interboro Partners; stARTT [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Architect, Landscape Architect Firms Chosen For CSULB Campus: The plan will look at a number of sustainability initiatives in an effort to come up with a comprehensive approach to make the campus look even more cohesive. -- Steinberg Architects; SWA Group- California State University, Long Beach

High-rise living with a twist: An eye-catching spiral skyscraper with a garden on every level...Stairscraper was one of the winners of the Total Housing Competition run by Storefront for Art and Architecture and Architizer...Barcelona-based architect...negotiating to build it in Abu Dhabi, but that details are currently confidential. -- Nabito Arquitectura [images]- CNN

Architecture 2030 Challenge for Products Issued: ...a plan to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the manufacturing and transportation of building products.- Mother Earth News

City School of Architecture obtains accreditation of the Royal Institute of British Architects: ...one of two schools of architecture in Sri Lanka...initiated by the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA)...- Daily Mirror (Sri Lanka)

MIT Museum acquires archives of Kallmann, McKinnell & Wood Architects: Designers of the 'sixth greatest building in American history'...City Hall by Kallmann McKinnell and Knowles [1962]..."This acquisition adds substantially to our 20th century collections," says Gary Van Zante, curator...- MIT News

Canadian Architect Douglas Cardinal Awards Collection to Carleton University: ...has bestowed his entire collection from 1984 onwards...collection pre-1984 is housed at the University of Calgary...it is hoped that the two collections can be linked virtually. - Exchange magazine

Annual Palm Springs Modernism Week kicks off today through Feb. 27 [videos, links]- The Desert Sun (Palm Springs, CA)

Call for entries/nominations: 2012 World Monuments Watch: Heritage sites from all time periods — ancient to modern — are eligible; deadline: March 15- World Monuments Fund



-- BIG-Bjarke Ingels Group: New National Gallery, Nuuk, Greenland -- TNT Nuuk; Ramboll Nuuk Arkitekti
-- Grimshaw Architects: Newport Station, Newport, Wales

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